

Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-15 AGR-10 EB-07 /049 R

DRAFTED BY CU/IVP/MR: DSMCCONNELL/LC

APPROVED BY CU/IVP/MR: JEPATMAN

CU/WE: D. SCHERR (SUBST.)

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R 070202Z APR 76

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TO AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS STATE 083433

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:OEXC EPAP EAGR ZA

SUBJECT: MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECT ON FOOD SYSTEMS, JUNE 13
TO JULY 12, 1976

REF: ROME 5200 73 STATE A-8585; 75 STATE A-1218

STATE 296744 OF DEC. 16, 1975 REPEATED BELOW IN ANSWER TO
YOUR REFTEL. DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR ROME.

FOR CAO'S AND AGRICULTURAL ATTACHES.

1. THE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES A 30-DAY PROJECT FOR FOREIGN
LEADERS FROM BOTH DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHO
ARE INTERESTED IN IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE TOTAL
FOOD SYSTEM IN THEIR COUNTRIES. BASICPROJECT OBJECTIVES
ARE (A) TO FACILITATE INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC,
CULTURAL, AND INSTITUTIONAL CONSTRAINTS ENCOUNTERED IN
ATTEMPTING TO INCREASE THE FOOD SUPPLY IN PARTICIPATING
COUNTRIES; AND (B) TO PROVIDE PARTICIPANTS WITH BROADER
PERSPECTIVES ON THE OPERATION OF FOOD SYSTEMS THROUGH
DISCUSSION AND OBSERVATION OF SELECTED ASPECTS OF THE
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AMERICAN FOOD SYSTEM.

2. QUALIFICATIONS: INDIVIDUALS NOMINATED FOR THIS PROJECT SHOULD HAVE: (A) INTENSE CONCERN WITH THE ECONOMIC, CULTURAL, AND INSTITUTIONAL BARRIERS TO INCREASED FOOD PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION; (B) BROAD RESPONSIBILITIES AND INTERESTS IN THE FOOD SECTOR, RATHER THAN INTERESTS CONCENTRATED MAINLY IN A SINGLE FIELD; AND (C) ENGLISH ADEQUATE FOR SEMINAR-TYPE DISCUSSION OF COMPLEX ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ISSUES. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES MAY BE FOUND IN VARIOUS OCCUPATIONAL CATEGORIES INCLUDING SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH FOOD PROBLEMS; OFFICIALS OF AGENCIES PLANNING OR FINANCING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS; UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS OF ECONOMICS OR AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS; STAFF MEMBERS OF RESEARCH INSTITUTES STUDYING MAJOR FOOD PROBLEMS; LEADERS OF FARMERS', COOPERATIVE, AGRIBUSINESS, OR OTHER APPROPRIATE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS; AND AGRICULTURAL EDITORS OF NEWSPAPERS OR OTHER MEDIA. POSTS SHOULD CONSIDER QUALIFIED NON-GOVERNMENTAL CANDIDATES WHERE AVAILABLE, SINCE THE PROJECT WILL STRESS ROLE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS IN FOOD SYSTEMS. IN NOMINATING, POSTS SHOULD ENSURE THAT A GRANT FOR THIS PROJECT IS RELEVANT TO ONE OF THE GROUPS OR INSTITUTIONS IDENTIFIED FOR EMPHASIS IN THE COUNTRY PROGRAM PROPOSAL AND APPROPRIATELY FALLS WITHIN THE PRIORITIES, OR SHOULD JUSTIFY ANY DEVIATION FROM THE CPP.

3. FIRST PHASE OF PROGRAM (JUNE 13 - JUNE 26): THE INITIAL WEEK IN WASHINGTON WILL INCLUDE (A) AT LEAST TWO DAYS OF INTRA-GROUP DISCUSSION AND INTERCHANGE ON ECONOMIC, CULTURAL, AND INSTITUTIONAL PROBLEMS IN INCREASING FOOD PRODUCTION AND AVAILABILITY IN THE PARTICIPANT'S COUNTRIES; AND (B) TWO TO THREE DAYS OF MEETINGS WITH U. S. GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO OBTAIN AN OVER-VIEW OF THE U.S. AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD ECONOMY AND OF U. S. POLICIES ON FOREIGN TRADE AND AID IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR. THE PROGRAM IN THE SECOND WEEK WILL BE SPENT IN THE MIDDLE WEST AND WILL EMPHASIZE VISITS TO KEY PRIVATE SECTOR ELEMENTS IN THE AMERICAN FOOD SYSTEM SUCH AS FARMERS' UNCLASSIFIED

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COOPERATIVES, FEED AND SUPPLY COMPANIES, CREDIT INSTITUTIONS, COMMODITY EXCHANGES, STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES, FOOD DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES, AND CONSUMER COOPERATIVES. THE PROJECT GROUP MAY BE DIVIDED INTO TWO OR MORE SMALLER TEAMS FOR PART OR ALL OF THE SECOND WEEK.

4. SECOND PHASE: WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE OF 1976 (JUNE

27 - JULY 1):

DURING THE THIRD WEEK THE GROUP WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE OF 1976 TO BE HELD IN A MODERN CONFERENCE CENTER ON THE CAMPUS OF IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY. THIS NON-GOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE, A PROJECT OF THE WORLD FOOD INSTITUTE OF IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY, IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A FORUM FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE AMONG INDIVIDUALS PROFESSIONALLY INVOLVED WITH THE PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, DISTRIBUTION, AND UTILIZATION OF FOOD AND PROGRAMS TO INCREASE NUTRITIONAL LEVELS. THE CONFERENCE THEME IS "THE ROLE OF THE PROFESSIONAL IN FEEDING MANKIND". MAJOR CONFERENCE SESSIONS WILL BE DEVOTED TO CURRENT AND FUTURE WORLD FOOD NEEDS; TO THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC, CULTURAL, PHYSICAL, AND BIOLOGICAL CONSTRAINTS ENCOUNTERED IN ATTEMPTING TO MEET THESE NEEDS, AND TO WAYS OF OVERCOMING THESE CONSTRAINTS. SUBPLENARY SESSIONS WILL DEAL WITH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLICY, TECHNOLOGY AND CHANGE, RENEWABLE AND NONRENEWABLE RESOURCES, AND THE IMPACT OF FOOD PROBLEMS ON PEOPLE, THE ENVIRONMENT, AND DEVELOPMENT. A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS WILL BE DISCUSSED IN TWELVE WORKSHOPS, INCLUDING INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES, FOOD PRODUCTION AND MARKETING POLICIES, CONSUMER POLICIES, RESOURCE UTILIZATION, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS, RESOURCE UTILIZATION, USE OF TECHNOLOGIES, AND THE VARIOUS BROADER IMPACTS OF FOOD PROBLEMS. THE CONFERENCE HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED AS A BICENTENNIAL EVENT BY THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL ADMINISTRATION.

5. FINAL-PHASE ACTIVITIES (JULY 2-12): PLANS FOR THE FINAL TEN DAYS OF THE VISIT WILL BE COMPLETED AFTER THE ARRIVAL OF THE GROUP IN WASHINGTON. IT IS EXPECTED THAT MOST PARTICIPANTS MAY WISH TO USE THE PERIOD FROM JULY 2 UNCLASSIFIED

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THROUGH 5, WHICH INCLUDES THE FOURTH OF JULY HOLIDAY WEEK-END, FOR A VISIT TO SAN FRANCISCO; OTHERS MAY USE THIS PERIOD FOR PERSONAL VISITS. DURING THE REMAINDER OF THE FINAL-PHASE PERIOD PARTICIPANTS MAY REQUEST INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMMING OR CHOOSE FROM PRE-PLANNED TEAM PROGRAMS. AN EVALUATION SESSION WILL BE SCHEDULED PRIOR TO LEAVING IOWA AND PARTICIPANTS WILL NOT RETURN TO THE EAST COAST UNLESS GOING HOME VIA THE ATLANTIC.

6. COST: DOLLARS 1895 PLUS INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL, CHARGEABLE TO THE POST'S FY-1976 IV ALLOCATION. GRANT BENEFITS WILL BE THE SAME AS FOR INDIVIDUAL 30-DAY IV'S. COST SHARING IS ENCOURAGED.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: POSTS WISHING TO NOMINATE FOR

THIS PROJECT SHOULD INFORM THE DEPARTMENT BY WIRE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. NOMINATIONS MUST REACH THE DEPARTMENT BY FEBRUARY 20. NOMINATING MESSAGE MUST CONTAIN COMPLETE INFORMATION, INCLUDING NOT ONLY BASIC BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, PRESENT AND PAST RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPERIENCE IN THE SUBJECT FIELD, AND DEGREE OF PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH, BUT ALSO SPECIAL INTERESTS AND PROGRAMMING SUGGESTIONS TO PERMIT ADVANCE PLANNING OF OPTIONAL PORTIONS OF PROGRAM. WE STRONGLY URGE NOMINATIONS BE MADE ON BASIS INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY AMERICAN OFFICER. SOME POSTS MAY PREFER TO SEND INFORMATION ON SPECIAL INTERESTS FOLLOWING CONFIRMATION OF SELECTION. THIS IS ACCEPTABLE, PROVIDED THAT POSTS COMPLETE THE ENTIRE PROCESS BY THE STATED DEADLINE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOOD ASSISTANCE, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE083433
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DSMCCONNELL/LC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760130-0935
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760487/aaaacvzz.tel
Line Count: 183
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ROME 5200, 76 STATE A-8585, 76 STATE A-1218
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 JUN 2004 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <12 JAN 2005 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ULTI-REGIONAL PROJECT ON FOOD SYSTEMS, JUNE 13 TO JULY 12, 1976
TAGS: OEXC, EPAP, EAGR, ZA, US
To: ROME
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006